<div align="center">REMARKS</div>

The present application was filed on July 30, 2003 with claims 1-21. Claims 1, 6-8, 13-15, 20 and 21 were allowed in the Notice of Allowability dated February 5, 2007.

In the Detailed Action of the Notice of Allowability, the Examiner proposed "Method and Apparatus for Candidate Patterns of Multi-Attribute Mining Templates are Related by Anti-monotonicity Property, and Derived by Merge-Joining Patterns of Nodes of at least a Portion of the Templates without Pre-Sorting" as an amended title. Applicants believe "Method and Apparatus for Deriving Candidate Patterns of Multi-Attribute Templates Related by Anti-Monotonicity Property by Merge-Joining Patterns of Nodes of Templates without Pre-sorting" is more appropriate. Applicants respectfully request amendment to the title before issuance. The amendment set forth herein merely corrects a formal matter. Entry of the amendment is therefore respectfully requested.

With regard to the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance included in the Notice of Allowability dated February 5, 2007 in the above-identified application, Applicants respectfully note that the Examiner, at page 9 of the Notice of Allowability, has mischaracterized the Abstract on page 29, lines 3-11 of the present specification. The Abstract, at page 29, lines 3-11 states the following:

> Attribute association discovery techniques that support relational-based data mining are disclosed. In one aspect of the invention, a technique for mining attribute associations in a relational data set comprises the following steps/operations. Multiple items are obtained from the relational data set. Then, attribute associations are discovered using: (I) multi-attribute mining templates formed from at least a portion of the multiple items; and (ii) one or more mining preferences specified by a user. The invention provides a novel architecture for the mining search space so as to exploit the inter-relationships among patterns of different templates. The framework is relational-sensitive and supports interactive and online mining.

Applicants also note that the Garafalakis (U.S. Patent No. 6,473,757) and Mitsuishi (U.S. Patent No. 6,385,608) references, which the Examiner refers to as "the closest prior art" on page 9 of the Notice of Allowability, are not prior art references cited against the claims of the present invention in the prior Office Actions. Nonetheless, Garafalakis and Mitsuishi suffer deficiencies similar to the previous art cited by the Examiner, as described in Applicants' previous responses.

Respectfully submitted,
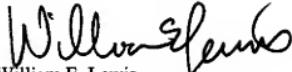
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William E. Lewis
Attorney for Applicant(s)
Reg. No. 39,274
Ryan, Mason & Lewis, LLP
90 Forest Avenue
Locust Valley, NY 11560
(516) 759-2946